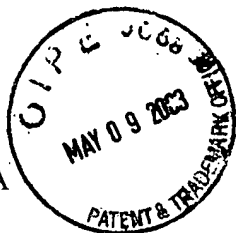


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mohammad Reza Baraty)
Appl. No. : 09/764,490)
Filed : January 17, 2001)
For : METHODS, APPARATUS,)
MEDIA, AND SIGNALS FOR)
MANAGING UTILITY USAGE)
Examiner : Hal D. Wachsman)

Skange
10/10/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed on November 7, 2002, the Examiner indicated that the application contains claims to three patentably distinct species grouped as follows:

- ~~I. Claims 1-51;~~
II. Claims 52-56; and
III. Claims 57-91.

In response, Applicant ~~elects without traverse~~ to proceed with the examination on the merits of the ~~claims of Group I.~~

If any issues exist, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record at his direct dial number of (949) 721-2950.

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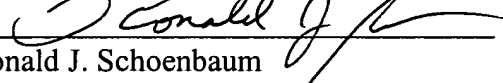
Appl. No. : 057764,490
Filed : January 17, 2001

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 5-5-03

By: 
Ronald J. Schoenbaum
Registration No. 38,297
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995

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